

SLANG OF THE SAILOR

The Lingo That is Used by Uncle Sam's Bluejackets.

MANY QUAINT EXPRESSIONS.

The Men-of-war's Man May Be a "Snowdigger" or a "Sloper," but He Uses the Language of Every Other Sailor.

There is a language that is neither English nor American, down east nor southern, western nor Yankee. It is just sailors' lingo.

No matter what part of the country may be the birthplace of a bluejacket or what his language at home, sooner or later he uses the language of every other sailor.

To the civilian a conversation between two bluejackets about his life on shipboard is hardly intelligible. The other day on the water front two sailors were overheard talking, says the San Francisco Bulletin.

"Oh, he's nothing but a beach comb. He was run up for breaking it once and got sent to the pie wagon," said one of them.

"I heard he got six months and a bob before he come here," replied the other. A small boy standing near asked what all those things meant. The sailors were in a good humor and explained.

"Beach comb, lad? Why, that's a fellow who hangs around a saloon ashore and never wants to work.

"Breaking it" is staying overtime on shore, and "run up" is brought to the mast for offenses. The "pie wagon" is the place where they put prisoners, and "six months and a bob" is sentenced to six months in prison and given a dishonorable discharge.

There are many other terms and expressions that do not show their meaning on the surface.

A "rookie" is a recruit. A man who "ships over" enlists again. A man who is on the report for mast call is "down for a chance." Canned beef is known as "canned Willie," and a bottle of liquor is a "dog." All things lost on shipboard are put in a room called the "lucky bag." An honorable discharge is "a big ticket," and desertion by a sailor is "jumped." When the mail arrives on board and is ready for distribution "mallo" is the cry which carries the news. A ship's carpenter is called "chips," a coopersmith "coppers," a blacksmith "blacks," and the chief of the engineering department "the chief."

When a ship is traveling at sea it is "seagoing," and if it hurries it is "making knots." A prison on shore is a "stone frigate." When a man is directed to a lower rating he is "busted," when he deserts and voluntarily gives himself up within a period of six months he is a "straggler" when he is sitting next the dealer in a friendly game of "draw" he is "under the gun," when he is continually violating the naval regulations he has "blown" the line, and when he thinks he has "blown" the line he has "blown" the line.

Why Colds Are Dangerous.

Because you have contracted ordinary colds and recovered from them without treatment of any kind, do not for a moment imagine that colds are not dangerous. Everyone knows that pneumonia and chronic catarrh have their origin in a common cold. Consumption is not caused by a cold but the cold prepares the system for the reception and development of the germs that would not otherwise have found lodgment. It is the same with all infectious diseases. Diphtheria, scarlet fever, measles and whooping cough are much more likely to be contracted when the child has a cold. You will see from this that more real danger lurks in a cold than in any other of the common ailments. The easiest and quickest way to cure a cold is to take Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. The many remarkable cures effected by this preparation have made it a staple article of trade over a large part of the world. For sale by Frank Hart and leading druggists.

"Pipe down" means in American slang "shut up." "Put in his oar" is "butt in." "Shove off, Jack," is a hint to move on. When a man is dishonorably discharged he gets a "straight kick." A sailor who draws more pay "draws more water." One who talks too much "blows off at a low pressure."

Wednesday afternoon, when the crew overhaul their clothing, is "rope yard Sunday." Any part of the United States is called "God's country," and the man from the eastern coast is a "snowdigger," while his brother tar from the west is called "sloper." The duty of calling the men in the morning falls to the master at arms, and he says "show a leg" or "rise up and shine." When a man has had no night watch and gets up in the morning with a good appetite it is "all night in and beans for breakfast."

One of the more familiar sea terms is "caught a crab," meaning caught an oar in the water. When a sailor has several engagements to his credit he is called "a sea dog" or "an old salt."

A gentle hint from one sailor to another that he does not believe something which is being told to him is "tell it to a marine." To re-enlist is to "slip over," and when more than half the enlistment is in a sailor is "going downhill."

His Office Hours.

Pat, a miner, after struggling for years in a western mining district, finally giving up in despair, was about to turn his face eastward when suddenly he struck it rich. Soon afterward he was seen strutting along, dressed in fine clothes. One day an old friend stopped him, saying:

"And how are you, Pat? I'd like to talk to you."

Pat stretched himself proudly. "If you want to talk to me I'll see you in my office. I have an office now, and my hours are from a. m. in the morning to p. m. in the afternoon." Northwestern Christian Advocate.

Crack or Break.

Edwin and his mother went for a walk Sunday afternoon. Coming to a tree of cherries, the mother bent a low limb so that the little fellow could pick some. Seeing some fine ones higher up, he begged to be allowed to climb the tree. "Oh, no," said his mother, "that would be breaking the Sabbath."

"And we are only cracking the Sabbath now, are we, mamma?" inquired Edwin. -Dellencor.

A clever man turns great troubles into little ones and little ones into none at all. -Chinese Proverb.

ALPINE GUIDES.

Some Are Experts in "Snow and Ice Work," Some in "Rock Work."

Some of the Alpine guides are experts in climbing. There are a number who are noted for their skill in what the Alpinist calls "snow and ice work." That means going up a peak which has so many snow fields and glaciers that its sides and summits may be nearly covered with them. The glacier guide can tell you all about "cornices"—snow masses which project from the edge of precipices and overhang the valley beneath like the roof of a house. Experience has told him whether a cornice can be crossed safely or whether it may break off if one ventures upon it. He is also an expert with the ice ax carried in his belt, cutting footholds in the glittering walls that may rise fifty or a hundred feet above your head. These ice precipices are frequently found at the heads of glaciers, which, as the schoolboy knows, are merely rivers of frozen water slowly moving down the face of a mountain on account of the force of gravity and the great pressure of the ice masses which form their source on the upper part of the slope. Other guides make a speciality of "rock work," conducting persons up peaks which may be only partly covered with snow and ice, but having sides of bare rock so steep that in places the cliffs may be almost straight up and down. Here it would seem that one must be as spry and as sure footed as the chamois—the rare goat, that lives up amid the Alps. While the crevasse and other dangers of the snow and ice fields may be absent, the mountain may be so abrupt that the climber must ascend hundreds of feet pulling himself up with arms aiding his legs, while often the guide hauls him to the top of the most difficult slopes by main strength. -St. Nicholas.

WONDERS OF THE SUN

Some Facts About That Colossal Fiery Globe.

AN IDEA OF ITS GREAT SIZE.

Our Earth and Moon, as Far Apart as They Now Are, Could Easily Move Around in Its Flaming Interior—Some of the Substances It Contains.

Astronomy does not always consist of night studies. There are some things to be seen after darkness is gone, both with glass and unassisted eye. The dear old moon often gives us a good daylight view of herself, looking as if haggard, sleepy and disgusted after being out overnight. The star Venus has often been seen in the afternoon. Some comets are on record as having approached so near the earth that the same could be said of them for weeks at a time.

But of course the great day attraction is the ruler of our own family of brother and sister planets, the sun.

Although "medium sized" as compared to many of the fixed stars, our sun is no lightweight, being about 1,300,000 times as large as the earth. If some great force could put us in the center of that ultra mammoth globe, and the moon also (keeping her at the same distance from us as she now is), and there was another moon nearly as far away from her, the earth, and the two moons and all the space between them could still be contained in the great, sparkling sun.

Its distance from us is 92,867,000 miles, a very tedious little journey if we could make it by customary methods. You can find plenty of accounts in books of how long it would take a railroad train to get to it, and you can ascertain it yourself by a little figuring. You will learn, for instance, that a limited express traveling 1,000 miles per day would arrive at Sun station in about 254 years, during which time there would probably be a few deaths on the train. If when the engine arrived it could give a blast of the whistle loud enough to be heard here, the people at this end of the line would have to wait fourteen years before the signal arrived if it proceeded at the usual velocity of sound.

But the eye, most wonderful of conveyances, can traverse all that distance in between eight and nine minutes. It takes that length of time for light to pass between the two worlds.

What is the material of which that great fiery globe is composed? The following substances have been detected by the spectroscope and may be considered as surely a part of it: Barium, calcium, chromium, cobalt, copper, hydrogen, iron, magnesium, manganese, nickel, platinum, silicon, silver, sodium, titanium, vanadium. It is thought that the following substances are also there, although the proof, while strong, is not absolute: Aluminum, cadmium, carbon, lead, molybdenum, palladium, uranium and zinc. It is a singular fact that gold has not yet been discovered in this great golden orb.

The fact that "all is action, all is motion," not only in "this world of ours," but throughout our entire universe, is illustrated by the sun, for, while all the planets of our system are revolving around it, it is not itself still; it would seem to be having a walts of its own. It turns on its axis, it has another motion about the center of gravity of the solar system, and, besides, it is on its way, with its flock of planets, toward some distant point in space at the rate of 900 miles per minute. These facts and figures sound strange and hardly believable, but they have been demonstrated mathematically over and over again by astronomers of different times and lands.

One of the most interesting things to be seen upon the sun is its spots, for this great king of planets is not entirely immaculate. Some think these are caused by cyclones, some that they are eruptions from within the sun's surface, some by cool matter from meteors falling into the hotter atmosphere, and this last idea would seem the most sensible one. Such a great flaming furnace as the sun apparently is, giving out life to a colony of planets, must have food, and possibly the great heat giving life imparting crea-

ture may, upon spots appear do during its motions.

These spots, often thousands of miles in extent, although they look so small from earth, can many of them be seen with an opera glass, but it is necessary to combine the instrument with smoked glass, which can be fastened upon it with rubber bands either at the eye or view end. -Brooklyn Eagle.

A Favor Appreciated.

"I have come to inform you," said the young man who thought the firm would have to go out of business if he went away, "that unless my salary is raised I shall have to sever my connection with this establishment."

"Thank you," replied the general manager.

"Am I to understand, then," the young man asked, "that you accede to my demand?"

"No. I thanked you because you had relieved me of an unpleasant duty. I always hate to discharge a man who will be unable to hold a job anywhere else." -Chicago Record-Herald.

Not until we know all that God knows can we estimate to the full the power and the sacredness of some one life which may seem the humblest to the world. -John Ruskin.

A MANSFIELD FAILURE.

When the Famous Actor Fainted of Hunger in London.

Mansfield was taken to the Savage club, where his cleverness was attested by the leading entertainers of London. When Corney Grain was taken sick in the spring of 1877, Mansfield was at once recommended as his substitute in the German Reed entertainments. He was to receive £5 a week. This was a splendid salary for any young man as salaries went then or as they stand now on the London stage. To Mansfield it was a positive windfall.

As a member of this distinguished little coterie of entertainers Mansfield felt that his fortune was made. His whole interest, attention and hope now centered on April 20, the night of his debut. He was assigned the small role of the headie in the comedietta "Charity Begins at Home," which opened the evening. After that he was to change to evening dress and hold the stage alone for half an hour after the manner established by Corney Grain. Every shilling he could scrape together went for a wardrobe, linen, boots, cravat, a boutonniere and other irreproachable appurtenances.

His friends crowded St. George's hall for his first appearance. It was observed as he entered the few lines of the headie that he was excessively nervous. When later in the evening he sat down at the piano and struck a preliminary chord he fainted dead away.

Mr. Reed relieved him of his position at once. In discharging him he said, "You are the most nervous man I have ever seen." It was not all nervousness, however. Mansfield had not eaten for three days. He had fainted from hunger.

It was many a year before he again worked up to the munificence of £5 a week, but this pathetic incident was later made an asset as employed by him in an attractive little comedy of his own writing. -Paul Wilstach in Scribner's.

Iodine and Light.

If it is necessary to use iodine for painting the skin in medical treatment it is worth remembering that the painting should be done in the dark or in a red light such as is used in photography.

If this is done and the painted portion of the skin be covered without being exposed to white light it will not blister nor stain the flesh even if the painting is repeated a good many times. -New York Sun.

Deer.

Deer will eat almost any kind of grain or grass, even preferring the ranker weeds to the choicest hay. They should always have an abundant supply of clear, running water. About the greatest item of expense connected with raising deer is the cost of fencing. The fawns are usually born in the spring or early summer. Does, as a rule, have but one fawn at first, but subsequently twins are born and in rare cases triplets. -Kansas City Star.

British Army Intelligence.

An army order gave the following as the occasions on which the union Jack is to be flown:

- (a) On anniversaries only, or when specially required for saluting purposes. (b) On Sundays and anniversaries. (c) Daily. -Punch.

Not Like Father.

"Do you think Mr. Skinnum's baby will take after its father?" "Not at all. The other day they persuaded it to cough up a nickel it had swallowed." -Washington Star.

No man has ever by complaining of his ill luck induced others to have confidence in him. -Chicago Record-Herald.

Remarkable.

"Finia Flippa is the most remarkable girl I know." "In what special respect?" "Why, there isn't a millibar in the world who can make her spend one penny more on a hat than she started out to spend." -London Globe.

Well Up.

"Is your son derelict in his studies, Mrs. Comeup?" "Yes. Indeed he is, and it makes us so proud of the dear boy to have all his teachers say so." -Baltimore American.

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